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Speed hike for cyclists shot down

COUNCIL City council feels there's no need for speed—but enhancements to the city's cycling infrastructure are in order instead.

Ald. Ric McIver's motion to review pathway speed limits met considerable resistance at yesterday's city council meeting, primarily because of concerns over user safety on the multi-use paths.

Even an amendment by Ald. Brian Pincott to increase speeds only on designated bike-only routes couldn't sway council. Both items were defeated.

"Perhaps we're grasping for a solution because we've lagged so far behind other cities in providing facilities for cyclists," said Ald. Druh Farrell.

DARREN KRAUSE/
 METRO CALGARY

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?
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Vancouver Games

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage throughout the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

• Today — Luongo given start in Team Canada's do-or-die game against Germany, page 11



On the web
 Visit metronews.ca for news updates



Canada's Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir perform their gold medal-winning free dance in the ice dance competition yesterday at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Winter Games. **Story, page 10.**

Games **Gold for duo**

Teen glad to be alive

Student arrives home after ship sinking off Brazil coast

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

At one point, 17-year-old David Gunn thought he was going to die.

Yesterday he arrived home safe with his family in Calgary after spending 42 hours in the Atlantic Ocean on a life raft.

His mother, Holly, said it's a miracle he's alive after the tall ship Gunn and 63 others were travelling aboard capsized Friday and went down off the coast of Brazil during a school-based naval excursion.

"Well, we didn't see anything for (42 hours), so I kind of thought I was going to die. After we saw the planes it was a huge relief. I have never felt anything better in my life," Gunn, a student at West Island College, told reporters. Gunn said students were overcome with varying emotions during the ordeal.

"At first we were super upbeat to be alive, but as it went on and on and on ... morale started

"We didn't see anything for (42 hours), so I kind of thought I was going to die."

David Gunn, survivor

to deplete."

Gunn intends to spend time with his friends and family now that he is home, and said he is "just happy to be alive."

Brazilian Coast Guard boats eventually rescued the group after the tall ship sank 550 kilometres from Rio De Janeiro.

"We knew they were safe ... but we also knew they were still in the middle of the Atlantic," Holly said.

"It is a miracle, very much so." Students arrived in Toronto early yesterday morning and then flew into Calgary at various times yesterday.



David Gunn

Police officer cleared in man's shooting death

INVESTIGATION A Calgary police officer will not face charges for killing a man who took his teenage neighbour hostage at gunpoint and then pointed a sawed-off shotgun at police.

The tactical officer made the right decision to shoot

Melvin Vanhouwe three times last spring, Clifton Purvis, head of the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team, said yesterday.

"Police used the words, 'City police. Show me your hands.' At that point, Mr. Vanhouwe raised the shot-

gun he was holding, pointing the muzzle towards a member of the Calgary police tactical team," Purvis said.

Vanhouwe was shot three times and dropped the shotgun, which was later found to have been sawed off,

loaded and modified to hold extra bullets.

The medical examiner found that Vanhouwe's blood alcohol level was four times the legal limit. A search of his house turned up 13 more guns, as well as ammunition and flares.

"It is unclear what Mr. Vanhouwe's motivation was in taking a hostage," said Purvis.

"However ... I have determined (the officer) was justified in shooting Mr. Vanhouwe in all of the circumstances." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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2 News on the Move

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News in brief

SALARY Lethbridge-East MLA Bridget Pastoor introduced Bill 501 to create an independent committee to review MLA pay. "If the premier and his MLAs truly believe in transparency and accountability, I don't see how they can vote against this motion," Pastoor says, adding MLAs can vote for pay hikes without any checks or balances.

POLICING The Calgary Police Commission will hold a public meeting this evening to discuss Districts 6 and 8 policing. The first of four annual meetings will take place at 135 Southland Dr. SE at 6:30 p.m., in Delta South's hotel atrium.

SCHOOLS The Calgary Board of Education has approved names for four schools to be opened for the 2010/2011 school year: Bridlewood School (K to 6), Cranston School, Evergreen School and West Springs School (all K to 4).

METRO CALGARY



CalgaryObits.com

notes the following deaths in our community:

ARMSTRONG, Gwendolyn Iva
BARRETT, Janice Margaret (nee Hurd)
BESTIANICH, John Joseph
BOLDT, Hildegard
CORBETT, Joan
DOMANN, Heidi (Kirchner)
ENNIS, Winifred Mary
GANGL, Agnes Margaret (Stolz)
GRAVELLE, Eleanor Louise
HENDERSON, Maisie Edith
HOLLANDER, Orrie Ethel (nee Doherty)
HUDSON, Joan Marilyn
LATZEL, Heinz Herbert
MACLAREN, Blair Eric
MARSTON, Robert Higginson
MCCOLL, Howard Stuart
MCPHERSON, Jean Isabel (nee Court)
MERRETT, Ailsa Ruth (nee Frank)
MOORE, Mary Jacqueline Zephryne Chase
NEUERT, Gladys Evelyn
PELL, Ernest Thomas Eaton
RAWLINSON, Brent Maurice
RICHARDSON, Yvette Jacqueline (Eve)
RINEHART, John "Jack" Frank
ROSSELLE, Barbara Elaine (nee Boyd)
SEMMENS, David Nelson
TAYLOR, Gloria Jean (nee Jahnke)
ULASZONEK, Eugenia
VOGT, Garry
WAYMARK, (Bishop) Christina Ophelia (nee Toppley)
ZAWALYKUT, Edward

For full obituaries go to
 CalgaryObits.com

Meet the man in spandex

STIG NIELSEN
 for Metro Canada

There are dozens of buskers working downtown Vancouver streets during the Olympics. Meet Andy Rimer, aka Spandy Andy, originally from Red Deer, Alta.

Q Who are you?

A My name is Spandy Andy, 'cause I'm Andy and I wear spandex. I do a lot of mime and moon walking and illusionary-style dance ... (that's when) you control a part of your body differently than you would regularly see.

Q What's business like?

A During the Olympics it's been an average of \$300 to \$400 per show, and I usually do that in two or three hours. If I go all day ... I make like \$700. If it's not the Olympics I make \$40 to \$100.

Q How did you start busking?

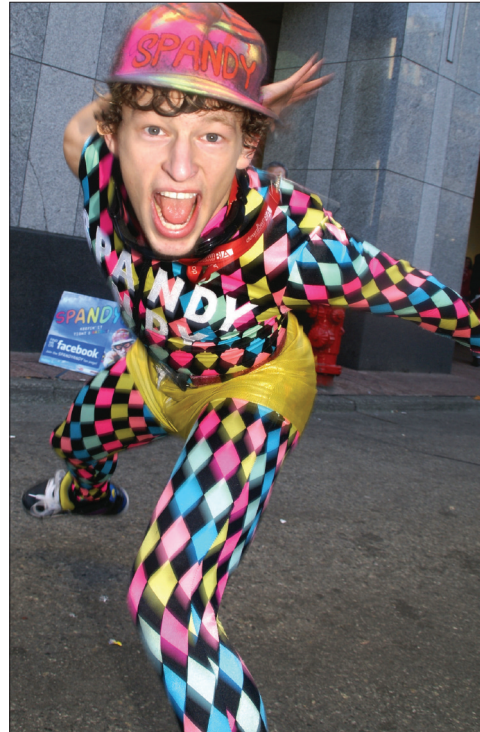
A I became a busker because one year ago I used to work for IBM — I finished college, got a great job ... (then) decided I didn't want to do this nine-to-five.

Q Of all the other buskers, who's your favourite?

A We all hang out together. Flying Bob was my mentor and he is in town for the Olympics. The Silver Elvis is amazing. He inspires me a lot.

Q How are the Olympic crowds treating you?

A They're great. There are lots of families and the city didn't actually put so much stuff ... for them to do. So many are just walking around. Once it gets (to be) nighttime though, they get a little too crazy and just partying, and then I usually just pack it up.



Spandy Andy from Red Deer performs for Olympic crowds on Granville Street in downtown Vancouver.

City to examine new transit payment methods

KRISTA SYLVESTER
 krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

PROPOSALS With a \$7-million capital program already on the books for alternate pay on city transit, aldermen considered additional methods to improve payment access for users. Transit director Fred Wong confirmed during yesterday's council meeting that a request for proposals for alternate payment methods will go out in March and council could expect more details by the fall.

Wong said a rollout of new pay methods is anticipated for 2012 with federal funding in place, and smart cards are among the methods being considered.

But Ald. Ric McIver suggested in his discussion with administration that a credit card payment system could be installed within six to eight months, at a cost of \$1.5 million.

"That would allow a large percentage of users to have another payment option without having to carry around another piece of plastic in their wallet or purse," McIver said.

Transit user Mike Ingersoll said he can't wait for alternative payments at train stations where exact



Calgarian Adam Hickey inserts a coin payment into the LRT pay station at the Franklin station yesterday.

change will not be required.

"It would really help. I

"It would really help. I just spent 10 minutes trying to use the same quarter and it wouldn't work."

Mike Ingersoll, transit rider

just spent 10 minutes trying to use the same quarter and it wouldn't work, so it would help a lot for things like that," he said.

A second part to the motion to investigate turnstiles at select transit locations was soundly defeated.

U of C board approves maximum tuition hike for 2010-11

EDUCATION University of Calgary students will have to prepare to shell out more for tuition after a 1.5 per cent tuition hike was approved yesterday.

The school's board of governors voted in favour of the increase, the maximum allowed according to

Market modifiers could mean more fees

• An upcoming meeting on April 16 will determine market modifiers and could leave stu-

dents with further increases for compulsory fees, according to the students union.

to the University of Calgary Students' Union.

"We're disappointed, but

it was anticipated because we knew the board was leaning that way," said Kay She, vice-president external of the union. She added that only the union and one other member of the board voted against the increase. KRISTA SYLVESTER/METRO CALGARY

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@Rayray_gunk It is 2010. This is downtown Calgary. How are there still people who don't know how to order at Starbucks?
@danpagan Remember, the #uofc Board of Governors will vote on the market modifier proposals on April 16, the final day of classes. #yyc

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Reporter held hostage shows sympathy for captors in first speech since she was freed at metronews.ca/canada

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B.C. man found not criminally responsible in death of three children

A Merritt, B.C., father has been found not criminally responsible for the first-degree murders of his daughter and two sons in their home in April 2008. Forty-one-year-old Allan Schoenborn's lawyer maintained his client suffered from a mental disorder when he killed 10-year-old Kaitlyne with a cleaver and then suffocated eight-year-old Max and five-year-old Cordon. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada



Hackers use Games to lure victims

Cyber crooks and hackers have used interest in the 2010 Vancouver Olympics as bait to cause havoc and in some cases rip off unsuspecting web surfers, says a U.S. security expert. The warning comes days after an infected web video of the death of Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili made the rounds on the Internet. Don Gray, of U.S.-based Solutionary, said the Games have become a playground for hackers primarily because of the overwhelming use of social media. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada waves white flag

COC admits it can't catch U.S. in Olympic medal race

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

Canada won't own the podium at the Vancouver Games after all.

With seven days of competition remaining, the Canadian Olympic Committee raised the white flag yesterday on the host team's goal of finishing first overall in the medal count.

"We are going to be short of our goal," CEO Chris Rudge said at the team's daily news briefing.

As of last night Canada had ten medals (5-4-1), good for fifth place far behind the U.S. at 25. Germany was second with 21, followed by Norway with 14 and Russia with 11.



Chris Rudge, CEO of the Canadian Olympic Committee, said Canada is raising the white flag. Rudge acknowledged yesterday it's unrealistic to believe Canada can catch up to the U.S.

"We'd be living in a fool's paradise if we said we were going to catch the Americans and win," Rudge said. "We're not throwing in the towel. You never do that

when you are in the middle of a fight, but it's difficult. They are way out ahead at this point and it would be unrealistic to state that we are going to catch them."

No. 2 OK for Buzz

• Canada's Olympic team, take note: the second man to walk on the moon says you don't always need to be first to be successful. Buzz Aldrin, one of many celebrities who has come to Vancouver to take in the Olympics, says too much emphasis is placed on being No. 1.

It was like an elephant left the room when Rudge acknowledged Canada wasn't going to finish first at these Games. That atmosphere contrasted starkly with the previous day's tense briefing when defensive Canadian officials maintained Canada could still finish first overall.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Grit senators call for RCMP overhaul

CRIME Liberal members of a disbanded Senate committee have taken the unusual step of releasing a position paper while Parliament is shut down, recommending sweeping changes to the embattled RCMP.

Scandal, controversy and morale issues have plagued the iconic national police force in recent years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Opposition blast feds on rights group

POLITICS The federal government is trying to restore order at a troubled rights agency by appointing a former Quebec politician and respected international activist as its new head.

The opposition isn't buying it.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon has nominated Gerard Latulippe, a former Quebec Liberal who also ran for the Canadian Alliance federally in 2000, to take over at the tumultuous Rights and Democracy agency.

"I fully believe that Mr. Latulippe is the ideal candi-

date to return Rights and Democracy to the promotion of Canadian values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law," Cannon said.

The nomination hit political roadblocks within hours. Cannon must consult the opposition parties on Latulippe's appointment. He said he hopes the new appointee can be in place by mid-March.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff dismissed the government's move, saying it had turned the agency upside down by stacking the

board with conservative directors and now wants to compound the problem.

"Our view is that the Conservative government started this process of chaos by appointing a board of governors that basically waged war on the organization it was charged to look after," he said.

Paul Dewar of the NDP said his party won't support the nomination. "Until such time as we've been able to have an inquiry at the foreign affairs committee about what's happening at Rights and Democracy, it's premature to support any nomination," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Lawrence Cannon

News in brief

ECONOMY The federal government says it has finished deciding who gets what under key parts of its massive stimulus

program in a tidal wave of approvals that should propel a spring job surge.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Comment & Views

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Comment

PM can't compare to bully Brown

NationalReport

Lawrence Martin

metronews.ca/nationalreport

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown treated staff so harshly, it is revealed, that some of them contacted the National Bullying Helpline for assistance in dealing with him.

The revelation follows publication of a book revealing all sorts of tantrums by the prime minister — grabbing staffers by the lapels, pulling them out of chairs, punching walls. And we all thought Brown was a staid economist, duller than dishwater.

Now that the news is out, Brown's spinners, while denying some of the allegations, are trying to work the story in their favour. These outbursts show a tough-minded leader at work, his PR men say, so

dedicated to solving the nation's problems that he is sometimes overcome by emotion.

The tactic — the humanizing of a robotic leader — might even work. Or the British might buy the take of opposition Conservatives — this shows Brown is an unstable bully unfit for high office.

The revelations from across the pond will likely be greeted with some relief in the office of Stephen Harper, a prime minister painted as somewhat of a bully himself. It's always

comforting to have the focus moved to others, to have your own alleged faults be seen as commonplace.

Interviews with many who have worked in the Harper PMO reveal that he can be cold and severe and occasionally blow a gasket. But if the stories about Brown are true, it should be said that our prime minister isn't even in the same league. No staffers running to bully hotlines here.

Nor have we seen our PM get so irate that, à la Jean Chrétien in 1996, he grabs

a protester by the throat and hurls him to the ground. Nor does he appear to have the short fuse of a Brian Mulroney, who would go into frequent rages, or John Diefenbaker, who was a towering inferno of megalomania.

The issue with Harper is not whether he bullies staff. It's whether he bullies the system. It's whether his smearing of opponents, his inclination toward censorship and secrecy, his over-centralizing of powers have downgraded democracy to an unprecedented degree.

The latest allegation suggests that his operatives have violated access to information regulations by delaying or blocking the release of potentially embarrassing government documents. Before this, we saw stories of how his political team crushed a democratic challenge to the nomination of incumbent MP Rob Anders in Calgary. Before this, literally dozens of other such examples.

Lawrence Martin is a journalist and author of 10 books who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

Views

Treat others as you would like to be treated

ModernLife

Georgie Binks

metronews.ca/modernlife

Remember when working out relationship woes involved visiting a therapist, who taught you stuff like, "I hear you saying this," or "When you shout at me it makes me feel sad."

So why is it when most of us show up at the returns counter or put a phone to our ears, with a customer care rep on the other end

and a kid's cellphone bill in our hands, we revert to our first therapy visit — but with more extreme anger management issues.

It's not like we haven't been set up. Who came up with the idea that local or weekday calls should cost more than long distance? Who invented a voice recognition system that can't recognize my voice?

All of this nonsense created by the sadistic technology warlords has produced a new underclass of abused people — customer care reps. One recently confided to me.

"I don't care if this call is being taped. When people

yell at me, I go home and bawl my eyes out. I don't set policy but I can help people with their problems. However, if they're rude out of the gate, I'm not going to."

Recently, I returned a defective camera battery. Initially, the young female clerk told me, "Sorry, it's after 30 days..."

Instead of yelling, I sighed about my daughter's disappointment in not being able to photograph a girls' weekend. Suddenly, I was her mom. Sooner than you can say, "Can I have the keys to the car?" she waived that 30-day policy.

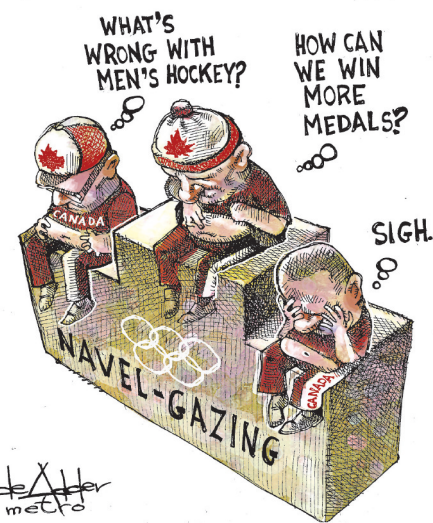
Weeks later I had a similar encounter. Set to do battle

over a faulty clothes dryer, I was thrown off balance by a pleasant sounding clerk. Instead of yelling, I beseeched her, "Just listen to my story." Soon, she was imagining me as her next door neighbour and my bank account was \$200 richer.

Which brings me to my conclusion — treat people like humans and they'll do the same back. And if I forget, I'll remember these words, "When you charge me 35 cents a minute for a local call, it makes me feel sad..."

Georgie Binks is a Toronto freelance writer who writes about gender and relationships; georgiebinks@rogers.com

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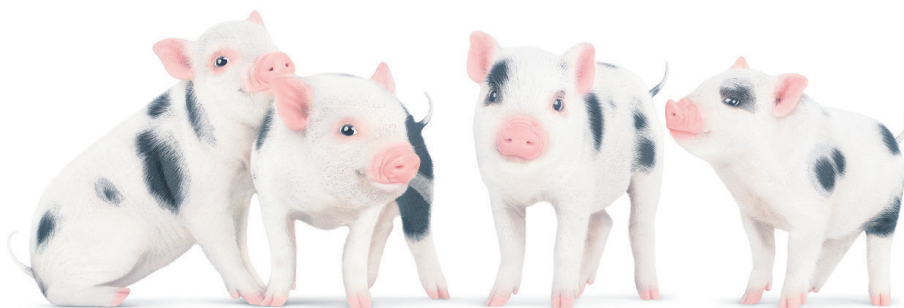
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Eurostar has suffered yet another embarrassment after one of its trains broke down in southern England late last night, briefly stranding more than 700 people. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

World



Merkel's party rocked by scandal

German Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative party is facing allegations that lobbyists were offered the chance to buy face time with a key state governor. Hendrik Wuest, the Christian Democratic Union's party manager in North-Rhine Westphalia, announced his resignation yesterday, taking responsibility for the scandal. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Cheney in hospital with chest pains

WASHINGTON An aide to Dick Cheney says the former U.S. vice-president is in George Washington Hospital after experiencing chest pains.

Cheney's assistant, Peter Long, said in a statement last night that the 69-year-old Cheney was resting comfortably and his doctors were evaluating the situation. Cheney has a history of heart problems and uses a pacemaker. In 2008, doctors restored a normal rhythm to his heart with an electric shock. It was the second time in less than a year that Cheney had experienced and been treated for an atrial fibrillation. Cheney has had four heart attacks, starting when he was 37. He has had quadruple bypass surgery and two artery-clearing angioplasties.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mistaken NATO Afghan airstrike kills civilians

NATO jets mistakenly killed at least 21 people in central Afghanistan, officials said yesterday, the deadliest attack on civilians in six months. The strike prompted a sharp rebuke from the Afghan government as it struggles to win public backing for a major military offensive against the Taliban in the south.

Also yesterday, a suicide bomber detonated explosives at a community meeting in eastern Afghanistan, killing 15 civilians — including a prominent tribal leader widely criticized for failing to prevent Osama bin Laden's escape at Tora Bora after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The civilian deaths oc-

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SCANLIFE
Nicolas Sarkozy urges Mideast peace talks, warning of potential "catastrophe" in the region. Scan this code for the story.

curred as 15,000 NATO, U.S. and Afghan soldiers were in their 10th day of fighting insurgents in the southern town of Marjah. The mission is to rout the Taliban, set up a local government and rush in aid to win public support.

The alliance said its planes fired on what was thought to be a group of insurgents in Uruzgan province on their way to attack NATO and Afghan

forces.

Interior Ministry spokesman Zemer Bashary said the airstrike hit three minibuses, which were travelling on a major road.

Although the airstrike was not related to the Marjah offensive, civilian casualties undermine NATO's goal of turning back the Taliban and winning the confidence of the Afghan people — one of the main objectives of the southern operation.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has repeatedly called on NATO to do more to protect civilians during stepped-up military operations, and the Afghan cabinet strongly condemned the airstrike.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arizona What up, dog?



This photo released by Guinness World Records shows Giant George, a Great Dane from Tucson, Ariz., who stands three-feet-seven-inches tall from paw to shoulder, making him the world's tallest dog. Sitting under Giant George is owner David Nasser.

JACOB GUINN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Haitian homeless say they are being evicted

Haiti Crisis

PORT-AU-PRINCE Homeless victims of Haiti's earthquake said yesterday that police are halting deliveries of food and water to try to force them to leave their camp on the grounds of the prime minister's office.

Police have padlocked gates to the camp where about 2,500 homeless people live under bed sheets propped on sticks on the sloping hill leading to the office.

Stinking garbage with swarms of flies is piling up and portable latrines are

filled, camp residents complained.

Witnesses said police beat 22-year-old Dalida Jeanty in the morning after she picked up a broom to sweep around her tent. "They called her and she did not come so they beat her," said her cousin, Alix Jeanty.

A police officer guarding the gate refused to give his name or to comment on the alleged beating or on accusations they have been turning away trucks carrying food and water for the past 10 days. Calls to the information ministry yesterday were unanswered.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

DRUGS Germany's oldest drug dealer is to go on trial today in the city of Wuppertal. The 85-year-old grandmother from the western city of Solingen has admitted to trafficking heroin in 2008 that she had purchased in the Netherlands, before passing on the drug route to her grandson in 2009. One of her motives had been to support her son, who had been a drug addict. According to her lawyer, she wanted to prevent her son from committing other crimes to pay for his

addiction. If convicted, she faces five to 15 years in prison.

METRO WORLD NEWS

IRAN Airlines not referring to the waterway between Iran and the Arabian peninsula as the Persian Gulf will be banned from Iranian airspace, the transport minister said yesterday. The warning was directed specifically toward the airlines of neighbouring Gulf Arab countries who have a history of referring to the body of water as the "Arabian Gulf."


THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bank exec turns down bonus

Lloyds Banking Group said yesterday that chief executive Eric Daniels has turned down his 2.3-million pound (\$3.6-million US) bonus for 2009, becoming the fourth top U.K. banking executive to refuse his bonus. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
 US 95.91¢ US .2¢	 US \$4.895 US 14.9¢	 US \$80.16 US 35¢	 11,634.75 74.54

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Toyota in hot seat with U.S. Congress

Facing tough questions in the U.S. Congress, Toyota Motor Corp. said yesterday that federal prosecutors have launched a criminal investigation into the company's safety problems and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission was probing what the automaker told investors.

Lawmakers pledged to ask executives about internal documents showing that Toyota visited with regulators who "laughed and rolled their eyes in disbelief" over safety claims.

The twin developments created new challenges for Toyota officials scheduled to testify at hearings today and tomorrow amid concerns that the company

Subpoena

- It wasn't immediately clear what U.S. laws Toyota might have broken. A subpoena would specify why prosecutors sought company documents, but Toyota would not comment.

and federal regulators failed to take safety problems seriously.

Congressional investigators are reviewing the Japanese automaker's recall of 8.5 million vehicles since fall to deal with safety problems involving gas pedals, floor mats and brakes.

In a new filing with the SEC, Toyota said it received

the grand jury request from the Southern District of New York on Feb. 8 and got the SEC requests Friday. The investigations raised the possibility of hefty fines for the automaker or possible indictments against executives in the United States or even in Japan. The latter would require executives to be extradited to the U.S. to face trial.

"As a general matter, prosecutors will look at whether individuals may have violated the law and bring charges against them as individuals, rather than seeking to build a case against the corporation itself," said Robert Mintz, who leads the investigations. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Singapore On tour



Tourists take photos of the financial district in Singapore yesterday. Singapore's 2010 budget will boost funding for job training and raise company fees on foreign workers in a bid to increase productivity and fuel growth of as much as 6.5 per cent this year.

Upgrader set to work in April

OILSANDS Suncor Energy Inc.'s fire-damaged oilsands upgrader is expected to be back in service in early April, squeezing production from Canada's biggest energy company for the next few months. A fire broke out two weeks ago at Suncor's U1 upgrader, which processes heavy crude from its oilsands operations north of Fort McMurray, into a higher quality type of oil. Calgary-based Suncor said it has finished assessing damage.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Toyota Canada launches nationwide campaign to educate Canadians on what went wrong during recall. Scan this code for the story.

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Your Money

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Protect yourself from rising rates

Run, run for your life! Straight to the bank. Quick, get that mortgage pre-approval.

Dash to the nearest real estate office. Buy. Buy. Buy. Get into the housing market while the getting is good — and possible.

Whoa! Wait a minute.

Last week, federal Finance Minister Jim Flaher-

Alison On Money

Alison Griffiths

metronews.ca/alisononmoney

ty put the squeeze on prospective homebuyers

with new rules designed to let some air out of the real estate market. Of course, making it more difficult to qualify for a mortgage could cause a mini-stampede between now and April 19 when the rules come into effect.

After that date mortgage applicants have to meet the standards of a five-year fixed rate mortgage, even

if they are applying for a lower variable rate. That means, on a \$250,000 mortgage, you must qualify for roughly \$250 more in monthly payments.

Nonetheless, don't rush off in a panic to buy before April 19. Instead armour yourself against the biggest threat to homeowners and buyers — rising interest rates.

Here's how to do it:

1 Aim for a down payment of 20 per cent or more. You won't have to pay for mortgage insurance, saving at least \$5,000 on a \$250,000 mortgage. You'll also have a smaller balance exposed to higher rates.

2 Go for as short an amortization as possible. Twenty-five years was the standard until 2006. Now 35 years is commonplace. The additional 10 years decreases your monthly payments by \$200 on a \$250,000 mortgage. But it increases your total interest payments by a whopping \$91,000 over the life of the mortgage. The longer amortization period also makes you more vulnerable to interest rate increases.

3 Plan to make lump sum payments or select a biweekly schedule and reach the mortgage-free day much sooner.

4 Get rid of non-essential credit such as retail credit cards you may

have applied for in order to get a price reduction or make a buy-now-pay-later purchase. And reduce or eliminate line of credit limits. This will improve your credit score making it easier to qualify under the new rules.



Alison Griffiths is a financial journalist, author and host of Maxed Out on the W Network. Write to her at alison@alisongriffiths.ca.

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Strategies to make sense of RRSPs in uncertain times

Tina Di Vito, director retirement strategies at BMO Financial Group, provides three steps to guide Canadians as they make their RRSP investing decisions:

1. There are three types of investors. Understand which one you are:
 - A wealth accumulator — someone who is many years from retirement and can afford to take risks.
 - A wealth preserver — someone closer to retirement who still has time to put more money aside, but wants to minimize risk.
 - An income generator — someone who is retired,

drawing income, and needs to make the most of what they have.

2. Ask for help. Your investments should be based on what type of investor you are, and experts are available to help you. There are steps to take to reach your goals, and the right guidance and advice can go a long way.

3. Make a contribution. Money may be tight, but it is important to make a contribution — remember that even a small amount can make a big difference over the long term.

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Chargers cut Tomlinson

LaDainian Tomlinson was released yesterday by the San Diego Chargers, ending a brilliant nine-year run in which he became one of the NFL's greatest running backs. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Sports

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONWS.CA



DANIEL CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

DELGADO Free-agent slugger Carlos Delgado says his latest hip surgery went well and he is looking forward to getting back onto the field. Delgado is quoted as saying in yesterday's edition of El Nuevo Dia newspaper that he wants to be "completely sure" that he's healthy and able to continue his comeback.

BASEBALL To Johnny Damon, the Detroit Tigers were the right team. "This is where I wanted to be," he said yesterday after completing the signing of his \$8-million US, one-year contract. "I love it here and think I am a good fit."

SOCCER Ronaldo says he will retire after the 2011 season. The 33-year-old Brazilian striker extended his contract with Corinthians yesterday, and plans to play two more seasons before putting an end to a career of more than 17 years.

NHL Toronto Maple Leafs general manager Brian Burke says an alleged altercation involving injured forward Mikhail Grabovski appears to be minor. TSN reported that Grabovski was taken into custody Friday night following an altercation in a Vancouver bar. Grabovski, sidelined since January by a broken wrist, was in the city as part of the Belarus hockey team.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 101 Chicago 95
Milwaukee 83 New York 67
Dallas 91 Indiana 82
Atlanta 105 Utah 100
L.A. Clippers 98 Charlotte 94

TODAY'S GAMES

New Orleans at Cleveland
New York at Boston
Minnesota at Miami
Portland at New Jersey
L.A. Lakers at Memphis
Phoenix at Oklahoma City
Detroit at Sacramento
Philadelphia at Golden State

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Jays audition 37 pitchers

Toronto Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston surveyed the field yesterday, as Blue Jays pitchers and catchers began their first official spring training workout

"We've got so many pitchers here we need names on their back," he said.

There are 37 of them, including 10 non-roster players invited to training camp and two on the disabled list.

"It's going to take a while to get to know them," Gaston said.

But the impact player may be the one who isn't here: Roy Halladay.

Toronto's former ace was traded to Philadelphia after last season for three minor leaguers — catcher Travis d'Arnaud, first baseman Brett Wallace and pitcher Kyle Drabek, son of 13-year veteran pitcher and 1990 National League Cy Young Award winner Doug Drabek. None is expected to

make the Blue Jays' roster this season.

The principal candidates for the No. 1 spot in the rotation are left-hander Ricky Romero, 13-9 as a rookie last year, and right-hander Shaun Marcum, 24-17 in four seasons before sitting out 2009 following shoulder surgery.

"Who's my No. 1? Who's my No. 2?" Gaston said. "You talk about two guys. We hope their arms are OK but you don't know until they start pitching in competition."

One benefit, so to speak, of Halladay's departure is added flexibility with the starters.

"We don't have Doc anymore," Gaston said. "We had to keep him on his rotation (starting every fifth day). That's the way Doc wanted it."

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Barbados.....9.9¢	Libya.....24.9¢	Israel.....2.9¢
Chile.....2.9¢	Nepal.....7.9¢	Italy.....2.9¢
China.....2.9¢	Oman.....14.9¢	Russia.....2.9¢
Ecuador.....12.9¢	Fiji.....24.9¢	Saudi Arabia...3.9¢
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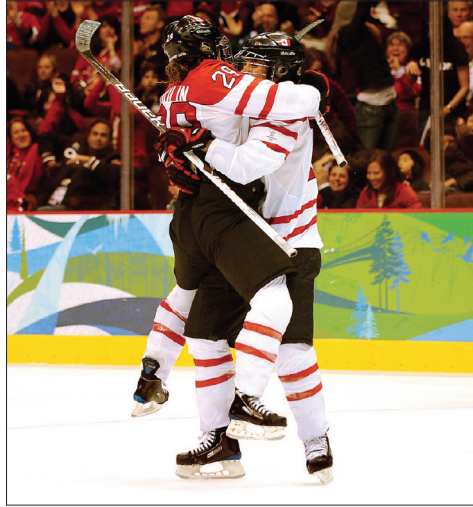
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Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Canada vs. U.S. a go for final



Canada's Marie-Philip Poulin, left, jumps into her teammate's arms in the third period of yesterday's game.

JEFF HODSON
Metro Canada

HOCKEY Canada's women's hockey team will take on the U.S. in a rematch of the 1998 and 2002 gold medal games on Thursday after both countries cruised to easy victories yesterday at Canada Hockey Place.

Canada beat Finland 5-0 yesterday, while the U.S. took a measure of revenge on Sweden — the team that upset them in the semifinals in Turin in 2006 — by trouncing

them 9-1.

Canada is the defending champion from Salt Lake City and Turin and it is the third time that the two teams have met in the final since women's hockey was included in the Olympics in 1998.

"It's something that people love to watch and we love to play in," said Canadian forward Jayna Hefford, of the upcoming battle with the Americans.

"It's going to be a battle all night ... (People are) going to see the best women's teams that have ever been on the ice," she

"It's going to be a battle all night ... (People are) going to see the best women's teams that have ever been on the ice."

Jayna Hefford,
Team Canada

predicted.

Yesterday, Canada opened the scoring about five minutes into the first period against Finland when Cherie Piper slammed home a backhand feed in the slot from Meghan Agosta.

Haley Irwin added a second later in the period when she poked in a loose puck past Finland goalie Noora Raty. The Finnish goaltender was outstanding, stopping 45 of the 50 shots she faced and keeping the Finns in the contest until about the 17-minute mark of the second period, when Agosta snagged a rebound and put the puck top shelf.

Irwin added her second goal of the game in the third, while Caroline Ouellette added Canada's fifth with a minute left in the same frame.

On the uphill side of the ice, Canadian goalie Shannon Szabados was perfect, stopping 11 shots for the shutout.



Canadian ice dance gold medallists Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir celebrate after receiving their medals during victory ceremonies yesterday.

A golden dance

Canadians Virtue and Moir make history

Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir have made history, winning Canada's first Olympic gold medal in ice dance.

The couple captured the gold with a stirring free dance performance to Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 5 at the Vancouver Winter Games yesterday.

Virtue, from London, Ont., and Moir, from Ilderton, Ont., edged American training partners Meryl Davis and Charlie White and reigning world champions Oksana Domnina and Maxim Shabalin of Russia.

The Canadians finished with 221.57 total points in their Olympic debut.

"It's the moment we've dreamed of."

Scott Moir

White and Davis had 215.74 for the silver and the Russians scored 207.64 to take the bronze.

"Oh my God, it's the moment we've dreamed of," said Moir.

"It's everything we've dreamed of. We couldn't be happier."

Virtue, 20, and Moir, 22, are also the first North Americans to capture ice dance gold.

They punctuated their free program with a breathtaking lift known as the Goose.

"It's been such a journey and so many people have helped us along the way," said Virtue.

It's the first figure skating medal for Canada at the Vancouver Games and first Olympic gold since Jamie Sale and David Pelletier shared the pairs title eight years ago in Salt Lake City.

In a discipline long dominated by Russians, Virtue and Moir lead a group of young ice dance teams that have thrived under the new judging system implemented in 2004 to eradicate the partisan judging that had been a big blight on the sport — ice dancing in particular.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Martin keeps perfect record

CURLING The "Michael Jordan of curling" didn't bring his A or even his B game to the Olympics yesterday but Kevin Martin's Canadian rink was still good enough to easily defeat the United States to run its record to 8-0.

Canada gave up a rare steal in the first end and finally took control in the fourth end, but at one point Martin was curling a paltry 38 per cent efficiency while third John Morris was even worse off at 13 per cent.

"Ooh, lucky number 13," chuckled Morris after Cana-

Women's action

• Canada's Cheryl Bernard clinched a spot in the women's curling playoff round with a 6-2 pounding of defending Olympic gold medalist Anette Norberg of Sweden yesterday.

da rebounded to beat John Shuster's team 7-2.

"Yeah, a little sloppy. I don't think it was our best first five ends."

After the game, Shuster anointed Martin "the Michael Jordan of curling."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

VANCOUVER GAMES

MedalCount

NATION	TOTAL			
U.S.	7	8	10	25
Germany	7	9	5	21
Norway	6	3	5	14
Canada	5	4	1	10
Switzerland	5	0	2	7
South Korea	4	4	1	9
Austria	3	3	3	9
Sweden	3	2	2	7
China	3	1	1	5
Netherlands	3	1	1	5
Russia	2	3	6	11
France	2	2	4	8
Slovakia	1	1	1	3
Czech Republic	1	0	2	3
Australia	1	1	0	2

No medal for Canada in men's cross-country sprint

Canada just missed the podium in the men's cross-country sprint at the Winter Olympics yesterday as Alex Harvey of St-Ferreol-les-Neiges, Que., and Devon Kershaw of Sudbury, finished fourth. It is the best-ever Olympic cross-country result for Canadian men. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Vancouver Games

Team Canada's goaltender Roberto Luongo takes a break during yesterday's practice.

Luongo gets nod in do-or-die game

Team Canada is ready to sink or swim at the Olympics with Roberto Luongo in goal.

Coach Mike Babcock tabbed the Vancouver Canucks goaltender yesterday to take over from struggling veteran Martin Brodeur for as long as Canada can go at the 2010 Games.

It starts with a must-win game against Germany tonight. A victory would put Canada into a quarter-final tomorrow against powerful Russia.

"That's our plan — he has an opportunity here and he has to play well," said Babcock.

Luongo said he was told of the change after Canada was beaten 5-3 by the United States in their final preliminary round game Sunday night, when Brodeur allowed four goals on 22 shots while American goalie Ryan Miller was

Yzerman believes

• Steve Yzerman still believes in the 23 players representing Team Canada. The executive director of the men's Olympic hockey team thinks Canada has improved in each of its games and remains hopeful the trend will continue. Yzerman noted

that he isn't surprised with the position the team finds itself in. The two-time Olympian says Canadian teams tend to start slowly at international hockey tournaments. He also said the quality of competition is much improved.

making 42 saves at the other end.

That gave the U.S. a bye into the quarter-finals, while Canada must first play its elimination game against Germany, a tight-checking underdog.

Luongo started Canada's first game of the Olympics, making 15 saves for the shutout in an easy 8-0 win over Norway, but then ceded the net to Brodeur, the NHL's all-time leader in wins and shutouts, for the next two games.

"It's going to be fun to play in front of the fans again," said Luongo. "It was a great experience in my first outing."

"I've played at world championships and world juniors and some playoffs, but this I'm really excited about," the Montreal native said. He will also be playing in the Canucks' home rink — GM Place, which was renamed Canada Hockey Place for the Games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ice dancers put on a brother-sister act

FIGURE SKATING Israeli ice dancer Roman Zaretsky knows exactly what people are thinking when they see him and his sister skating hand-in-hand or doing a seductive tango.

Double ick.

"The romance part, it's hard to show because it's programmed in your head this is your sister," he said. "So it's hard to act."

Anyone with a brother or sister knows there are times you don't even want to talk to them, let alone gaze into their eyes long-

ingly and convince people you mean it.

For four of the 23 ice dance teams at the Vancouver Olympics, however, there's no choice.

Joining the Zaretskys — Roman and Alexandra — in last night's free dance are Britain's Sinead and John Kerr; Japan's Cathy and Chris Reed; and Germany's Christina and William Beier.

Brother-sister acts are nothing new in figure skating. French ice dancers Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay

added the silver medal at the 1992 Albertville Games to the world title they had won a year earlier. American siblings Kitty and Peter Carruthers were silver medallists in pairs at the 1984 Olympics.

But when most fans think of pairs or dance, they like to imagine blissful love stories like 2002 Canadian pairs gold medallists Jamie Sale and David Pelletier or recent Vancouver pairs gold medallists Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo.

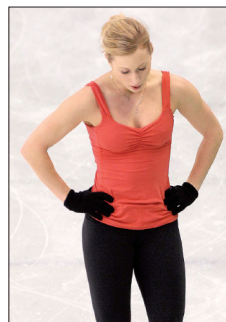
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rochette's tragedy not unique

Field of Play

Scott Russell

metronews.ca/fieldofplay



Canada's Joannie Rochette takes a break during figure skating practice yesterday.

Joannie Rochette must be emotionally drained in the wake of her mother Therese's death. The tragic news comes on the eve of the most important competition of the young skater's life.

But Rochette should take heart because she is not alone. The country mourns with her and supports her agonizing decision to leave the Olympic city or remain to take part in the Games.

There is more than one precedent in Canadian history for this kind of occurrence at a critical time. Perhaps Rochette can draw some comfort and strength from those who have gone before her.

In 1992, one week before the Barcelona Olympics, medal-favoured synchronized swimmer Sylvie Frechette endured the suicide of her fiancé. Frechette

chose to compete at the Games and won gold.

Just two days prior to the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, hockey player Danielle Goyette's father, Henri-Paul, died from complications associated with Alzheimer's disease. In her first game just three days later, Goyette scored three goals and added an assist as Canada began the tournament with a victory against Japan. The Canadians went on to win a silver medal.

Finally, and most recently, there is the case of swimmer Brent Hayden. The week before he competed at the world champi-

onships in Melbourne, his grandfather Perry Anderson died of old age in British Columbia.

"I visited him on his death bed before I left for Australia and promised I'd win the gold medal for him," Hayden recalled in Whistler.

"It was the last thing I thought about as I got up on the blocks and began my swim. I just remembered the promise I made him and didn't want to let him down. I didn't care how much it hurt I was going to deliver on my promise to him."

It ended up that Hayden made good by winning gold in the 100-metre freestyle and was true to his word.

It is a tragic set of circumstances and for Rochette, the timing could not be worse. But she has to know that there is a way to survive this.

She must have faith that she is not alone and that her mother is so very proud of her as she readies for her time on the great stage of the Olympic Games.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

Did hype hinder hopes of owning podium?

CONCERN How Canada's athletes managed the adrenalin rush of performing in front of their home fans will come under close scrutiny when the dust settles on the Vancouver Olympics.

In the wake of yester-

day's concession that Canada will likely not reach its goal of winning more medals than any other country, the question was asked if athletes who failed to convert their podium potential were so stimulated by the

unprecedented support in front of them that they over-reached.

The atmosphere at sport venues has been described as "unbelievable" and "over the top" by athletes, coaches and officials.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Health & Beauty

EDITOR: EMMA.YARDLEY@METRONEWS.CA

Daily stress takes its toll on sexual desire

Men and women both suffer when intimacy is replaced with 'to do' lists and worries

CELIA MILNE
for Metro Canada



No time for yourself? Hate your job? Can't pay your bills? Time to de-stress before it hurts your sex life.

"Stress plays a significant role in dampening libido," says Eli Bay, a relaxation expert in Toronto.

"If you are tired and you don't have the urge and you can't perform, it is very likely a stress thing," he adds.

Bay is a skill trainer who has been teaching people the tools to deal with

stress for 32 years.

Stress can affect sexual health in both men and women.

"Stress is a fight or flight reaction. It is great in an emergency, but not when you are trying to heal, make love or be creative," he says.

When you are stressed, your body becomes focussed on defending itself — poised for battle.

"People are walking around with low level stress all the time. That's the new normal.

"It takes a toll. Your energy is sapped by having a constant low-level stress."

"People are walking around with low level stress all the time. That's the new normal ... Stress affects the flow of hormones in the body. It dampens the hormones that enhance the sexual act."

Eli Bay,
Relaxation expert

Along with common signs of stress such as poor sleep, anxiety, allergies, gastrointestinal problems, heartburn, indigestion, grinding teeth, depression, and asthma, Bay has seen people suffer from erectile dysfunction, loss of desire, and impotence.

It makes sense because when you are stressed, you feel tired and angry.

Your muscles are tense and your breathing is shallow, your blood pressure is up, your blood sugar may be up, and your body is



Trying to balance household finances and over-loaded work schedules can affect stress levels.

getting ready for flight.

"Stress affects the flow of hormones in the body. It dampens the hormones that enhance the sexual act."

Exacerbating the problem for some people is the fact that medications for

depression and anxiety can cause sexual dysfunction and impotence.

Crutches such as alcohol, smoking and drugs can make the problem worse.

Bay is a proponent of using relaxation techniques

to quell the effects of low-level stress.

"It's not a pill, it's a skill. Cultivate it, develop it, practice it and when you are in need of it, call upon it.

"People who are stressed out before they plan to make love need to take time, relax, breathe, use slow, deep, full breathing. It can be very powerful. It brings you into the moment."

How stressed are you? Bay's website, elibay.com, provides a quiz to answer that question, and offers DVDs, training sessions and other tools to help you learn to relax.

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- Talk to others
- Exercise regularly
- Do activities that take you away from your stressors
- Don't waffle: Make decisions
- Avoid putting things off
- Make a schedule of leisure activities
- Delegate if you are too busy.

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION



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Food

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Personal Gourmet recipe of the month

ROSE REISMAN

Heart healthy recipes



Smoked Salmon Sushi Squares.

It seems salt is the new trans fat.

Experts are warning us that high intake of salt may lead to high blood pressure, heart attack or stroke. Although salt, is a mineral that is essential for our health, we consume this often hidden flavouring in excess.

Nearly 80 per cent of the salt in North American diets comes from processed and packaged food. Another 10 per cent of our salt intake is the salt that occurs naturally in foods. This means that you only control 10 per cent with the saltshaker.

In the spirit of "Heart Month" try some of my delicious lower sodium recipes.

Nori is available in good quality supermarkets and Asian food shops.

SERVES 16

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups sushi rice
- 2 cups water
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp granulated sugar
- 16 thin slices English cucumber (unpeeled)
- 4 oz smoked salmon
- 1 Tbsp light mayonnaise
- 1/2 tsp wasabi (Japanese horseradish)
- 1 sheet nori (dried seaweed)
- 1 tsp sesame seeds, toasted
- Low-sodium soy sauce, wasabi and pickled ginger (optional)

METHOD:

1. Combine the rice and water in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and boil for one minute. Reduce the heat to low, cover and cook for 12 minutes. Remove from the heat and let stand, covered, for 10 minutes.

2. While the rice cooks, combine the vinegar and sugar in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring to

About Rose



Rose Reisman is an author, media personality, nutritionist, and the inspiration behind a fresh food delivery service, Personal Gourmet, and new website, The Art of Living Well. Visit Rose at rosereisman.com & personalgourmet.ca

dissolve the sugar. Remove from the heat.

3. Turn the rice out into a large bowl. Stir in the vinegar and sugar mixture. Cool just until the rice no longer feels hot. Don't let the rice get cold or it will dry out.

4. Line an 8-inch square baking dish with plastic wrap. Cover the bottom with the cucumber slices. Lay the smoked salmon over top. Mix the mayonnaise and wasabi together and spread over the salmon.

5. Place half of the rice over the mayonnaise. Pat it firmly to an even thickness, dipping your fingers in water to prevent the rice from sticking to your hands. Top with the nori. Add the remaining rice, patting it firmly to an even thickness.

6. Invert onto a serving platter and cut into 16 pieces. Sprinkle with the sesame seeds. Serve immediately, or cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to eight hours. Serve at room temperature, garnished with soy sauce, wasabi and pickled ginger, if desired.

Make Ahead

- Prepare early in the day, cover and refrigerate. If you just want to cook and season the rice earlier in the day, cool before placing in a large plastic bag so it doesn't dry out.

Smoked Salmon Sushi Squares

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COOK TIME: 12 MINUTES

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A Padma Lakshmi is now the happy mother of a daughter. "Model, author and Emmy-nominated host of Top Chef Padma Lakshmi gave birth to a baby girl named Krishna Thea Lakshmi on Saturday," her rep said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONWS.CA

Conan weighs live tour

Former late-night TV host Conan O'Brien may be taking his act on the road and even overseas.

O'Brien's exit deal with NBC barred the former Tonight host from TV appearances for several months. He is weighing a tour that would take him directly to his fans, according to a person familiar with the proposal.

The person, who was not authorized to publicly discuss the plans, spoke on condition of anonymity.



Details are unsettled, the person said, but O'Brien may perform live in U.S. venues, including college campuses, and head to Europe. An O'Brien spokesman declined comment.

The tour could be a prelude to a new talk show for the comedian, who left Tonight in January when NBC tried to bump him to a midnight slot. Possibilities include Fox, which expressed interest.

Jay Leno reclaims Tonight next month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympics play it safe

I Believe not representative of diverse Canadian music scene

TheAudioFiles

Bryan Borzykowski

metronews.ca/music

Three days before the Olympics began I had already lost count of how many times I heard I Believe.

The song, sung by 16-year-old Montreal phenom Nikki Yanofsky, must have been on three or four times a night, so you can understand, after 11 days of speed skating, hockey and skiing, just how deeply lodged that track (and its equally epic variations) is in my head.

We can debate whether or not the song is any good, but by now that's irrelevant — would anyone be that upset if a day went by without hearing the tune? I Believe was chosen by CIV to inspire patriotic feelings among us Canucks, but for many it's become a second anthem, one that's supposed to represent Canadian ideals and, perhaps, our taste in music.

We pride ourselves on being a multi-cultural society, and that extends to music too — we've embraced rockers, jazz bands, opera singers, aboriginal artists and country music — so choosing an over-the-top adult contemporary track as the defining Olympic song leaves out a lot of great, Canadian sounds.



Nikki Yanofsky's I Believe was chosen to inspire patriotic feelings and has topped Canadian charts.

If the network had to pick a single genre to focus on, though, it's not a surprise that they'd pick a song that sounds a lot like Celine Dion. One of the songwriters, Stephan Moccio, has written for the French-Canadian songstress (Glass Tiger's singer Alan Frew was the other writer), and the track's epic chorus and slick, mid-tempo verses follow a similar arch to Dion's huge 1996 hit Be-

cause You Loved Me.

It may be a popular number — the single topped the Canadian iTunes and Billboard Canadian Hot 100 charts, so clearly lots of people like it — but it wasn't necessarily the most representative piece of music, unless we think of ourselves as snoozy, inoffensive and middle-of-the-road.

There's no right choice here — no song would satisfy everyone, and with so

Off the market?

The Daily Mail speculates that Daniel Craig has married his girlfriend of six years, Satsuki Mitchell. Craig was spotted with a gold band on his ring finger. Mitchell was also wearing a ring. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

"Choosing an over-the-top adult contemporary track as the defining Olympic song leaves out a lot of great, Canadian sounds."

many genres to choose from, recording We Are The World-style ensemble with George Pettit, John K. Samson, Randy Bachman and Shania Twain could have been a disaster, but the songwriters at least could have tried to spruce the tune up with something other than a children's choir.

Having a mix of the country's more established and underground artists write their own Olympic songs would have been better, or at the very least, this one tune could have been recorded in myriad ways. (as folk tune done by East Coasters Joel Plaskett, a country song by Aboriginal singer Shane Yellowbird, a soft indie number by Jenn Grant.) In the end the song is so safe and devoid of any real Canadian culture that it not only pales in comparison to our other big hits, but we won't recall it a year from now. And that's too bad, because we've got a lot of great music worth remembering.

Bryan Borzykowski is a business and entertainment writer. Follow Metro Music on Twitter @TheMetroMusic

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Jolie spends time with dad

Angelina Jolie and her father Jon Voight have been famously estranged for years, but photographers caught Voight enjoying a sunny day in Venice, Italy, this weekend with his daughter, Brad Pitt and a few of the grandkids. RADARONLINE.COM



Past haunts Idol hopeful

The success of an American Idol contestant is causing a stir among parents who are complaining they never got refunds for performance fees in a failed musical production Todrick Hall wrote and directed.

Hall, who last Tuesday made it into the top 24 on American Idol, wrote Oz, The Musical, which he billed on its Facebook page as "a contemporary twist on the classic story, with all new music."

He had been putting on small productions of the show since he was 17, using local, nonprofessional actors for the lead roles and casting local children as munchkins and flying monkeys.

"They were fabulous, just wonderful productions, and the kids just really loved them," said Dallas businessman Greg Money, who had three daughters in the shows.

Then in August 2008, Money agreed to finance a production of Oz in Lubbock, Tex., that used a professional cast for the lead roles.

That led to a small tour of Texas cities in early 2009. Money says was a "financial disaster."

Reached by phone Friday, Hall said American Idol rules do not allow him to participate in any media interviews, however, he did generally confirm Money's account of events. Hall is scheduled to perform Wednesday on Idol with the top 12 male semifinalists.

Plans moved ahead to take the show on a national tour and Money said he tried to line up new backers. Several commitments fell through, however, and the show ended abruptly.

Meanwhile, in several cities, auditions had already been held and children were looking forward to performing on stage in a

real musical.

Many parents had paid a \$50 performance fee that was never returned.

In Lakeland, Fla., Jennifer Davis, who owns the Art in Motion Academy of Dance, said she was not even informed the show had been cancelled.

She found out when she opened the studio for a planned rehearsal and no one from Oz showed up.

"I don't believe (Hall) came to my studio know-



Todrick Hall

ing that the musical was going to go down and they

would steal everyone's money, but it happened," she said.

"He could have at least called — explained what was going on."

Money said he was responsible for the finances of the production, not Hall. He said Hall tried to make amends to the disappointed children by putting together a smaller, less expensive show, but even that lost money.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Roman Polanski, left, shares a moment with actor Ewan McGregor on the set of the director's latest film, *The Ghost Writer*.

The curious case of promoting Polanski

FILM To say the least, it can be difficult releasing a film when your star director is confined to his Swiss chalet awaiting possible extradition to the U.S. for a sex crime committed in the 1970s.

That's the unique situation for Roman Polanski's *The Ghost Writer*, which opens in Canada next month. What began as a typical production for Polanski was upended when he was arrested in Switzerland last September in connection with a 32-year-old rape case.

Suddenly, Polanski's past returned to the front pages. "It's sad for all concerned, but it's also heightened the movie," said Pierce Brosnan, who stars in it. "The movie's in the can, he's in the can."

The 76-year-old, Oscar-winning filmmaker fled the U.S. in 1978 after pleading guilty to unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor. He is currently under house arrest at his Gstaad chalet, where he's awaiting a Swiss

decision on whether to extradite him to the U.S.

The arrest interrupted Polanski as he was finishing post-production on *The Ghost Writer*. Though he had wrapped principal photography in February and completed a rough cut in August, he had to finish editing the film while in prison before being granted house arrest.

Relaying materials through his lawyers, Polanski edited some of the movie alongside fellow prisoners peeling onions.

Executives for Summit Entertainment, which is releasing the film in the U.S., are staying mum — as are publicists and agents associated with the movie.

The theatrical trailer for *The Ghost Writer* hardly mentions Polanski's name, something that might normally be expected for the auteur director of *Chinatown* and *Rosemary's Baby*.

The strategy is clear: emphasize the movie and downplay Polanski.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Ghost Writer opens March 19

DVD picks

The Damned United

Directors: **Tom Hooper**

MOST SPORTS MOVIES follow the all-too-predictable pattern of tracking an unlucky club as it struggles to find its heart and win a championship.

The Damned United, written by Peter Morgan with the same keen insights he brought to Michael Sheen's previous triumphs, *The Queen* and

Frost/Nixon, goes the other way.

It's all the better for it. Sheen is Brian Clough, who was briefly the coach of the Leeds United soccer team, in an incident from the 1970s that is almost Shakespearean in its hubris.

Just 44 days after he took the helm, the Leeds board removed Clough. He'd managed to alienate management, players and fans in record time with

his outrageous insults, bullying, boasting and vendettas, which became the stuff of worldwide headlines.

Director Tom Hooper wastes little time on the pitch, making judicious use of archival footage and some recreated action



in a film otherwise rich with period detail and colour.

Sheen's performance is controlled fury, barely touching ground as he presents Clough as being the very picture of a delusional fool.

Extras includes a commentary by Hooper, Sheen and producer Andy Harries, deleted scenes (with optional director's commentary), and several featurettes.

The Informant!

Directors: **Steven Soderbergh**

ASTUTE FOLLOWERS of Steven Soderbergh's contrarian ways learn to be wary of the director's zanier instincts.

So word that his new film *The Informant!* is a whistleblower drama that plays like cracked satire should be cause for at least one raised eyebrow.

Here's the good news: his instincts are spot on

this time. In adapting reporter Kurt Eichenwald's non-fiction account of Mark E. Whitacre, the corporate corn husker turned federal snitch, Soderbergh has given this incredible story exactly the amount of insanity it deserves.

Matt Damon added 30 pounds, bad hair and an Alfred E. Neuman smile to play Whitacre, and he got it exactly right, too.

Peter Howell/for Metro Canada

Officials with a California non-profit group say former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has agreed to play the piano at a benefit concert to raise funds for a local school. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

EMI shelves plan to sell Abbey Road

Cash-strapped music company EMI Group Ltd. has shelved plans to sell Abbey Road and is now looking for an investor to help save the London recording studio made famous by The Beatles.

News last week that EMI had been speaking to potential buyers sparked dismay among music fans. Former Beatle Paul McCartney said he hoped Abbey Road could be preserved, and the National Trust heritage group said it was considering buying the building. But EMI now says it wants to keep the facility and is talking to "interested and appropriate third parties" about a revitaliza-

tion project.

Abbey Road is one of the world's most famous music studios, used by artists including Pink Floyd, Jeff Beck and Radiohead.

EMI said Sunday it had rejected a 30 million pound (\$50 million US) offer for Abbey Road last year. It said Abbey Road had been losing money "for a number of years ... and we have developed plans to revitalize the studios. These plans would involve a substantial injection of new capital."

EMI — whose artists include Coldplay, Lily Allen and Robbie Williams — has struggled financially since it was bought in 2007

Album cover

• The crosswalk in front of the studio was immortalized on the cover of the band's 1969 album Abbey Road, and still draws tourists eager to recreate the image for their holiday snapshots.

for 2.4 billion pounds by private equity firm Terra Firma Capital Partners.

An audited report released earlier this month revealed that Terra Firma needs a huge cash infusion by June to avoid defaulting on its loans from Citigroup Inc. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Harry Connick Jr. speaks at the White House at an engagement where he later performed for a Washington elementary school glee club.

Connick Jr. lifts spirits in D.C.

WHITE HOUSE Harry Connick Jr. told students Sunday that music can get people through the darkest times — even a disaster like Hurricane Katrina, which devastated his hometown, New Orleans, in 2005.

The Grammy-winning composer and singer was welcomed to the White House by first lady Michelle Obama, who invited him to perform for members of a Washington elementary school glee

club. Connick invited one of the children to join him and his band onstage and help sing When the Saints Go Marching In. Mrs. Obama told the children that just as singing in their club makes them happy, music can help lift the spirits of a city like New Orleans.

"These guys aren't just playing music and earning money and performing, but they're also community leaders, too," Mrs. Obama said. "Even if you can

sing and dance, the question is: What do you give back?"

Connick co-founded the Musicians' Village in New Orleans, which helped provide housing for displaced musicians after Katrina. Some of the musicians who performed with Connick on Sunday live in the village. Connick performed later as part of the National Governors Association's Governor's Ball.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gere marks 'just another year'

FILM STAR Richard Gere may be one of the screen's most enduring sex symbols, working in an industry that worships the cult of youth, but he's not bothered about aging. In fact, he approached turning 60 in August as marking "just another year."

"It meant nothing, if you want me to be honest with you," said Gere from New York, a shrug in his voice, while promoting his latest movie, Brooklyn's Finest.

When pressed, he admits turning 50 was a jolt, "only because of the roundness of the number; the inability to be able to think you're 22."



Richard Gere

"You do start to forget things a bit," he says, "and you don't recover with injuries as quickly."

Silver-haired Gere hasn't

succumbed to vanity: still handsome, his features have changed and he looks his age onscreen as he plays Eddie Dugan, a recently divorced, burned-out career cop working his last week on the beat in Brooklyn's most dangerous neighbourhood.

Eddie's story is one of three separate police tales that eventually knit together in Brooklyn's Finest — Don Cheadle is an undercover drug squad cop desperate to get out and Ethan Hawke has to deal with temptation and rising panic as his lousy pay cheque can't stretch.

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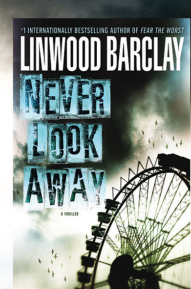
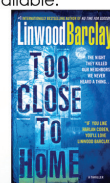
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Drumming up allegations

Police were called to a California restaurant Sunday morning after paparazzi accused Blink-182 drummer Travis Barker of making threats and slashing tires. A video posted on TMZ shows Barker in a profanity-laced screaming match with photographers waiting in a car. **POPEATER.CA**

No Hiccups with casting couple

Corner Gas alumni team up for new comedy series about emotional children's book writer

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Corner Gas alum Nancy Robertson admits she was a little hesitant when husband/co-star Brent Butt offered her the lead in his new series Hiccups.

"I was just worried people might get the impression that I only work with Brent. Which isn't true," says Robertson, who plays a volatile children book writer in the CTV comedy.

"But the part was so great. She's so free. So open. It's real fun to play."

Created by Butt, Hiccups focuses on Millie Upton, the writer of Grumpaloo, a hugely successful series of children's books.

Millie's problem is she tends to speak her mind. And when she gets ticked off, she gets really ticked off. So much so, her agent and publisher convince her to go into therapy to curb her outbursts.

The Gemini-winning Robertson, who married Butt in 2005 while making Corner Gas, is hesitant to



Nancy Robertson stars in the new CTV comedy Hiccups.

call Millie "angry", though the character does tend to meltdown in coffee shops and book stores.

"I wouldn't say she has anger issues. More like emotional issues. She's ex-

treme. When she's happy, she's really happy. But she's totally content with who she is. She's just an author who doesn't know how to work with people."

So, in the series pre-

miere, Millie seeks the help of a down-and-out "life coach" Stan — played by Butt. Their odd couple teaming forms the center of Hiccups.

"She personally doesn't

"I was just worried people might get the impression that I only work with Brent. Which isn't true"

Nancy Robertson

think she needs a life coach. It's more for the other people in her life. They can't handle being around her."

But don't go expecting any sparks between Millie and Stan on Hiccups. Despite their off-screen marriage, Robertson had no interest in bringing romance into Millie's life.

"Absolutely not. As producer, I had some input on the character. I give my opinion and sometimes they listen and sometimes they don't. And I didn't want to do another one of those shows where the women are all out looking for love."

Hiccups premieres Monday, March 1 at 8 p.m. on CTV.

Usual suspects get nods for WGC awards

WRITING Less Than Kind, Corner Gas and Flashpoint are among the finalists for the 2010 Writers Guild of Canada Screenwriting Awards.

The feature film category includes nominations for Crackie, written by Sherry White, and the upcoming Jay Baruchel movie The Trotsky, written by Jacob Tierney.

Four instalments of the Winnipeg-shot sitcom Less Than Kind made the cut in the episodic half-hour category. Corner Gas was the other nominee. Brent Butt and Corner Gas have been repeat winners in the past. The finalists were chosen from 148 scripts. The winners will be announced April 19 in Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kenya'sStyle



Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
267	351	-	ACCESS Alberta Primetime (Live)	Past Life "Saint Sarah"	American Idol The Top 12 female semifinalists perform.	Lost (N)					
243	317	3	CFCN (4) XXI Winter Olympics Hockey, Figure Skating, Medal Ceremonies, Hockey, Figure Skating, Medal Ceremonies, (Live)	XXI Winter Olympics Figure Skating, Skiing, (Live)	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Metropia				
-	-	4	OMNI King/Queens	The Simpsons	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Lost Locke seeks help.	Lost "Lighthouse" (N)	CBC News: The National	The Hour	
-	371	5	KKLY 4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Kids in Hall	Comedy Fest	NCIS: Los Angeles	News Hour
245	306	6	CBRT Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dark Blue	How I Met	Accidentally	Scrub	Better Off Ted	EP Daily	TJ Alberta
244	338	7	CICT ET Canada	Entertainment	The Good Wife (HDTV)	NCIS "Code of Conduct"	NCIS: Los Angeles	Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)	Drop-Diva		
246	-	8	CKAL Law & Order: Special Victims	Virginie (SC)	La Factice	Providence (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Trauma (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Local Programming			
119	705	9	CBFTX (6) Local Programming	Access H.	The Doctors	NCIS "Code of Conduct"	NCIS: Los Angeles	The Good Wife			
-	372	12	KREM News	PBS NewsHour (N)	Nova (HDTV) (DVS)	Wild Lives	Frontline (N) (DVS)	Independent			
-	374	14	KSPS CBC News: The National	CBC News: the fifth estate	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol The Top 12 female semifinalists perform.	News	
502	395	15	CBBC KHQ-News 6	Millionaire	The Office	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol The Top 12 female semifinalists perform.	News	
-	370	16	KHO The Office	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol The Top 12 female semifinalists perform.	News			
-	373	22	KAYU The Office	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol The Top 12 female semifinalists perform.	News			
297	652	37	WPIX Melrose Place "June"	PIX News at Ten Tong.	Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)	Nancy Grace	Showbiz Tonight				
500	500	29	CNN Larry King Live (N)	The Joy Behar Show							
502	502	31	CNN2 The Joy Behar Show								
400	400	21	TSN (4) XXI Winter Olympics Curling, Bobsledding, Hockey, Speed Skating, (HDTV) (Live)	(4) XXI Winter Olympics Curling, Figure Skating, (HDTV) (Live)	(6) Court Surfing NBA news, scores and highlights.	Score Now	Score Now	Score Now			
408	418	27	net XXI Winter Olympics Bobsled.	Ghost Hunters International	Destination Truth	Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters			
417	406	48	SPEED Super Bikes!	Dangerous Drives (HDTV)	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Monster Jam (HDTV)	Super Bikes!			
552	543	20	YTV iCarly	To Be Indie	Fries That?	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Prank Patrol	Family Biz		
557	541	39	FAM Han, Montana	Wizards-Place	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han, Montana	Ned's School		
555	545	67	TOON Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad
575	583	11	CMT According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Shaye: This Is It	Amer. Funniest Home Videos	Reba		
553	546	17	TREE Franklin	Babar	Little Bear	Toopy & Binoo	Max & Ruby	Dragon (DVS)	Backyardigans	Ni Hao, Kai-Lan	Go, Diego, Go!
505	398	19	TWN (5) EarthWatch One	EarthWatch One	Supernanny	Shopping Bags	Grocery Bag	Beauty Call	Style by Jury	Look Good	
602	568	23	W House-Sell	House-Sell	Supernanny	Shopping Bags	Grocery Bag	Beauty Call	Style by Jury	Look Good	
521	560	24	TLC 19 Kids-Count	19 Kids-Count	Little Couple	Little Couple	Little Couple	19 Kids-Count	19 Kids-Count	Little Couple	
603	561	25	FOOD Hell's Kitchen	Hell's Kitchen	Good Eats	Good Eats	Restaurant Makeover	Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Hell's Kitchen	
615	520	26	A&E Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	(10:01) Criminal Minds	Criminal Minds	Criminal Minds	
617	522	32	SHOW Trailer Park	Relic Hunter	Relic Hunter	Relic Hunter	Relic Hunter	Relic Hunter	Relic Hunter	Relic Hunter	
601	562	33	SLICE Party Mamas	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	ET Canada	What Happen?	Real Housewives of New York	Housewives	
-	633	34	ENC2 Jane-Dragon	(7:25) SnakeEater II: The Drug Buster *	SnakeEater II: The Drug Buster *	SnakeEater II: The Drug Buster *	Sherlock Holmes and the Leading Lady ** (1991, Mystery)	Sherlock Holmes	Sherlock Holmes	Sherlock Holmes	
520	505	35	DISC Destroyed	Destroyed	Swamp Loggers (N)	Daily Planet	Destroyed	Destroyed	Swamp Log.		
620	523	36	BRAVO Denny Doherty-Mamas-Papas	Denny Doherty-Mamas-Papas	At the Concert Hall (N)	Law & Order "Savior"	Without a Trace	Without a Trace	Bravo! Concert		
294	650	40	WPCH Law & Order: Special Victims	Seinfeld	Name Is Earl	Batman & Robin * (1997, Action)	Arnold Schwarzenegger	Arnold Schwarzenegger	Arnold Schwarzenegger		
626	547	41	COM Just for Laughs	Air Force	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Fit-Conchords	
-	539	42	TCM Ruggles-Red	(7:45) One Hour With You *** (1992)	One Hour With You *** (1992)	(9:15) Gigi ***** (1958, Musical) (DVS)	UFC Unleashed	UFC Unleashed	UFC Unleashed	American-Paris	
628	584	43	SPIKE Deadliest Warrior (HDTV)	Blue Mountain	Blue Mountain	Blue Mountain	Blue Mountain	Blue Mountain	Blue Mountain	Blue Mountain	
522	516	45	HIST Ancients Behaving Badly	Ancient Discoveries	Ancient Discoveries	Cities of the Underworld	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Ancients-Badly	
627	528	46	SPACE Medium (HDTV)	Fringe	Fringe	InnerSpace	Star Trek: Next Gen.	Star Trek: Next Gen.	Star Trek: Next Gen.	Star Trek: Next Gen.	
-	47	47	AMC (6) Forrest Gump *** (1994, Drama)	Tom Hanks.	Forrest Gump *** (1994, Drama)	Tom Hanks, Robin Wright, Gary Sinise.	Forrest Gump *** (1994, Drama)	Tom Hanks, Robin Wright, Gary Sinise.	Forrest Gump *** (1994, Drama)	Tom Hanks, Robin Wright, Gary Sinise.	
619	525	49	TROP End of Leash	Last 10	Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Rescue Ink	Dog Whisperer Chip.	End of Leash		
600	564	50	HGTV Bang, Buck	Genevieve	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes on Homes	Million Dollar Listing	Bang, Buck		
501	391	52	CTV CTV News Tonight	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	CTV News	
504	508	70	BNN Squeeze Play	Commodities	Commodities	Market Call Tonight	Psychic Inv.	Encounters	Judging Amy	Missing	
526	507	92	VIVA The Closer	Flame	Flame	Tears	Mixed Blessing	Moose TV	Cashing In	Rabbit Fall	
269	350	93	APTN Olympics	XXI Winter Olympics Skiing.	Flame	Tears	Mixed Blessing	Moose TV	Cashing In	Rabbit Fall	
-	94	94	MC World News	News	My Queen	Immortal Yi, So	Il Caffe	In Germany	Euromaxx	Schauplatz	
571	581	100	MMT mmtop10.ca	Hammerlime	Hammerlime	Gene Simmons	Wild 'n Out	Gene Simmons	Wild 'n Out	Gene Simmons	
570	580	101	MM Make It or Break It	MOD Live at the Base	MOD Live at the Base	Vancouver 2010 Concert	America's Best Dance Crew	America's Best Dance Crew	America's Best Dance Crew	America's Best Dance Crew	
581	566	102	MTV Buried	Life of Ryan	16 and Pregnant (N)	MTV Live	Sex, News-Roll	Taking, Stage	Made	16-Pregnant	
-	116	TV5 Partir autrement	ADN	Nouva	Nouva	TV5 Le Journal	(9:35) Temps présent	Aquitaine, de la vague à l'ame			

critics'corner

Style by Jury

Elizabeth, a widowed motorcycle mama, has been in a relationship for four years, but she and her boyfriend are lacking that special spark. It doesn't take host Bruce Turner, wardrobe consultant David Clemmer and the rest of the team long to figure out why: She has lost touch with her feminine side, favoring men's clothes and eschewing anything girly in the new episode "No Spark No Flame." 10:30 PM on W



American Idol

On this season's first night of viewer voting, the top 12 female semifinalists take to the stage hoping to earn another week in the competition as they perform live for judges Simon Cowell, Ellen DeGeneres, Randy Jackson and Kara DioGuardi, as well as fans at home. Ryan Seacrest is the host. 9 PM on ACCESS KAYU

NCIS: Los Angeles

While Hetty is at a Senate hearing in Washington, D.C., an investigation into the death of a Marine lance corporal leads Callen and Sam and the rest of the team to stolen anti-tank missiles and a dangerous militia group in "Ambush." 10 PM on CICT KREM



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It's over between actress Abbie Cornish and boyfriend Ryan Phillippe, her spokesperson confirms to people.com. "Abbie ended the relationship with Ryan and she moved out of their home," she said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Phillippe single again

Celebrity Buzz

etalk's Lainey Lui dishes out celeb dirt in three's



Three Talk

with Lainey Lui

AMY WINEHOUSE. One of the most exciting talents to emerge from the UK in years, Amy Winehouse's musical genius is often overshadowed by her personal drama. Now divorced and reportedly clean after having spent the better part of a year in St Lucia, Winehouse is back in London working on new material which, hopefully, will give us something new to talk about. Here are three things you might not know about Amy Winehouse:

ONE She learned to play drums for her highly anticipated third album due for release this year.

TWO Winehouse's personal fortune dropped from £10 million to £5 million between 2008 and 2009 as her parents managed her money while she battled addiction.

THREE Winehouse's new addictions are apparently plastic surgery and exercise. Her father told the British papers that she loves her breast enlargement, is considering having some work done on her ass, and exercises several hours a day.



Lainey Lui is a reporter for etalk and runs the popular gossip site, LaineyGossip.com. As part of CTV's Olympic Broadcast Team, Lainey is on the ground in Whistler reporting on entertainment news from the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.



Cowell: Engaged or not?

AN OVERLY CRITICAL HUSBAND — SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT CATCH

Simon Cowell's rep, Max Clifford, tells People magazine he cannot confirm reports that the American Idol judge is engaged to makeup artist Mezghan Hussainy. But don't be surprised if Cowell pops the question before too long.

"I see it being repeated everywhere," Clifford says. "But when I asked him last Wednesday, when he and Mezghan were about to fly

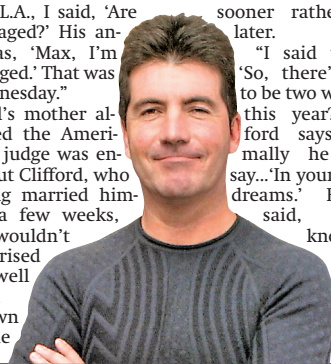
back to L.A., I said, 'Are you engaged?' His answer was, 'Max, I'm not engaged.' That was last Wednesday."

Cowell's mother also denied the American Idol judge was engaged. But Clifford, who is getting married himself in a few weeks, says he wouldn't be surprised if Cowell followed him down the aisle

sooner rather than later.

"I said to him, 'So, there's going to be two weddings this year?'" Clifford says. "Normally he would say... 'In your wildest dreams.' But he said, 'Who knows?'"

METRO NEWS SERVICES



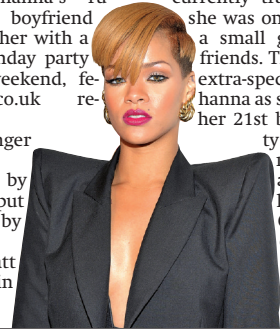
Rihanna gets a surprise at 22nd birthday party

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES Rihanna's rumoured boyfriend surprised her with a 22nd birthday party on the weekend, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer was "shocked" by the bash put together by baseball player Matt Kemp in Phoenix,

Arizona — where Kemp is currently training — as she was only expecting a small gathering of friends. The party was extra-special for Rihanna as she cancelled her 21st birthday party in the aftermath of her assault at the hands of Chris Brown early in February 2009.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Duff shows off ring

AND COMRIE SHOWS OFF HIS FUTURE TROPHY WIFE

On Friday, Hilary Duff showed off her huge engagement ring from hockey player Mike Comrie as she continued vacationing in Hawaii, where the singer, 22, recently got engaged, us-magazine.com reports.

Celeb jeweler David Manane, CEO of

MyJewelryBox.com, tells usmagazine.com the ring appears to be a 4.5-carat Asscher-cut engagement ring. Estimated price? \$300,000.

Shortly after they began dating in 2007, Comrie surprised Duff with a Mercedes-Benz G-class SUV.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Lohan admits to hard drug use

IN OTHER NEWS, THE SKY IS STILL BLUE

Lindsay Lohan admits she's used drugs in the past to deal with personal problems, and when her father, Michael Lohan, started talking to the press about her issues, it only made matters worse, she reportedly tells the Sun.

"When

my father was going public, that's when I hit rock bottom," Lohan tells the newspaper. "I tried to mask my problems with alcohol, cocaine and mind-altering substances. Now I'm in a place where I don't need to use anything and I feel emotions because I choose to."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Charlize Theron embracing Kabbalah after bad break up

WATCH OUT SCIENTOLOGY — KABBALAH IS GIVING YOU A RUN FOR YOUR CELEBRITY MONEY

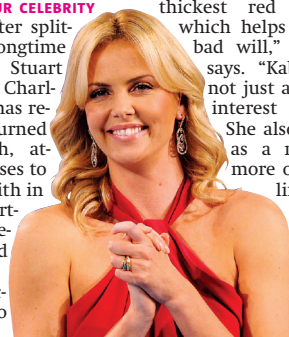
After splitting with longtime boyfriend Stuart Townsend, Charlize Theron has reportedly turned to Kabbalah, attending classes to study the faith in L.A. and sporting the trademark red string bracelet, according to

the Daily Mail.

"Charlize is wearing the thickest red bracelet, which helps ward off bad will," a source says. "Kabbalah is not just a religious interest for her.

She also views it as a means to more of a social life and mixing with Hollywood."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Tiger back in rehab clinic

AW SHUCKS, LET'S FORGET EVERYTHING AND LOVE TIGER AGAIN...

After his public apology last week for his marital indiscretions, Tiger Woods is back in rehab, having traveled to a facility in Arizona over the week-end

with wife Elin Nordegren, according to Radar Online. But Nordegren may not be by his side the entire time. "Elin may not stay the entire week with him," a source tells the Web site. "She taking the marriage one day at a time."

METRO WORLD NEWS

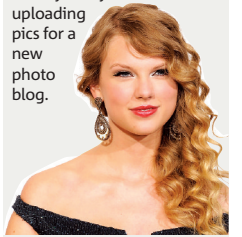


Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

TAYLOR SWIFT is being productive with her jet lag, **WILLIAM SHATNER** is focused on his goals, and **SAMANTHA RONSON** is getting professional help. @WilliamShatner Riding again tomorrow morning. Have to stay in top shape to win the Pacific Coast Year End Horse of the Year again this year. @samantharonson headed to therapy- 1st thing on the agenda- why the hell am i sitting here with tears in my eyes watching american idol?

@taylorswift13 I've been waking up at 5am every morning since we got back from Japan. Early morning activity today: uploading pics for a new photo blog.



THREELICIOUS*



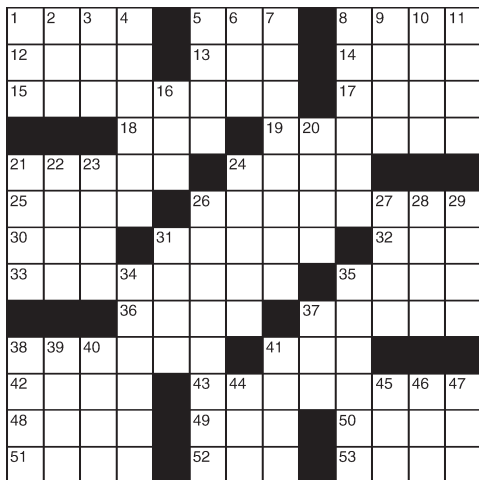
a Little Piece of Happy.



Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist – Breakfast Television

"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta."

WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.



ACROSS

- 1 There's a lot of this ...
- 5 ... in this
- 8 — gin fizz
- 12 Sandwich cookie
- 13 Crony
- 14 Full house, e.g.
- 15 Wrenches
- 17 Memorization method
- 18 Got a look at
- 19 Prayer
- 21 Parsley piece
- 24 Algerian port
- 25 Baseball's Hersher
- 26 Controversial punishment
- 30 Newhart or Hope
- 31 "Million Dollar Baby" star
- 32 Life story, for short
- 33 Droopy-eared dogs
- 35 Heart of the matter
- 36 Historic times

- 37 Sound portion
- 38 Cup holder
- 41 Possess
- 42 A deadly sin
- 43 All aglitter
- 48 Neighborhood
- 49 Annoy
- 50 Loathe
- 51 Catherine who wed Henry VIII
- 52 Ph. bk. info
- 53 Elliptical

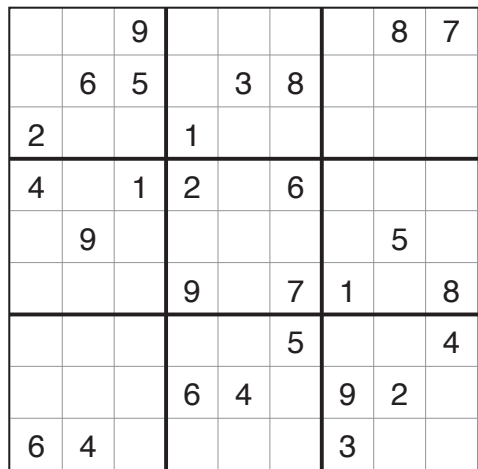
DOWN

- 1 "Mayday!"
- 2 Dadaist Jean
- 3 Meadow
- 4 Adenoid neighbor
- 5 Jet forth
- 6 Corn spike
- 7 Losers
- 8 Get smaller
- 9 Asian nation
- 10 Aware of
- 11 First place?
- 16 Run-down horse
- 20 File crosser
- 21 Weeps loudly

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



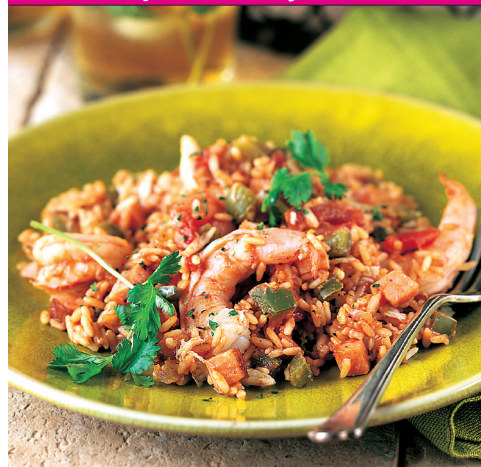
2	5	6	3	8	1	9	7	4
7	8	4	9	5	2	6	1	3
9	1	3	7	6	4	8	5	2
3	2	8	1	7	9	4	6	5
5	6	1	2	4	8	7	3	9
4	7	9	6	3	5	2	8	1
1	4	5	8	9	6	3	2	7
6	3	2	4	1	7	5	9	8
8	9	7	5	2	3	1	4	6

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Jamaican Shrimp and Crab Jambalaya

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tbsp canola oil
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1 large green pepper, chopped
- 1 celery rib, chopped
- 3 oz bacon, diced
- 796 ml can chopped tomatoes in purée
- 284 ml can chicken broth
- 1 1/2 cups long-grain white rice
- 2 tsp Old Bay seasoning
- 450 g large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 225 g lump crabmeat, picked through
- 2 tbsp chopped fresh cilantro

MEHTOD:

1. Lightly coat large skillet with nonstick cooking spray; set over medium

heat. Add oil and flour and stir constantly until roux turns deep brown, 5 minutes. Add onions, green pepper, celery and bacon; sauté until vegetables are soft, 5 minutes. 2. Stir in tomatoes, broth, rice and Old Bay seasoning; bring to boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until rice is almost tender, 20 minutes. Fold in shrimp and cook until shrimp are pink and firm, 5 minutes. 3. Fold in crab; cover and cook 1 minute. Remove from heat and let stand 3 minutes. Sprinkle with cilantro.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20



Give people you meet and mix with today all the praise they can handle. They may not deserve a word of it though.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21



If you don't feel quite right in the company of certain people today you must not be afraid to turn your back and walk away.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23



Only you know how hard you have worked to reach a certain level, so only you can decide whether or not it is worth carrying on.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22



Something of a creative or artistic nature has the potential to make you a star, and rich with it, but it won't just happen as if by magic.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21



Today's Sun-Pluto link cuts across the career and financial angles of your chart, so chances are you will enjoy some sort of windfall.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21



Family and financial matters are under excellent stars today and if you follow your instincts you won't go far wrong.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22



Age and experience may be good things to have but energy and enthusiasm are more important in what you put into your doings over the next 24 hours.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20



You are on such dazzling form at the moment that you will get what you desire one way or another.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23



If you need to attempt something difficult or detailed, now is the ideal time to give it a go. Pluto in the work area of your chart is energized by the Sun.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18



Put yourself out for other people today, no matter how much it might cost in time, energy or money.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22



If someone suggests that you might like to lower your sights a little today you should suggest right back at them that they might like to raise their own.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20



Everything evens itself out in the end, so if you feel you have gained something you don't deserve it can only be because you did something good.

This day in history

1898: Émile Zola is imprisoned in France after writing 'J'accuse', a letter accusing the French government of anti-Semitism and wrongfully imprisoning Captain Alfred Dreyfus.
1945: Second World War: During the Battle of Iwo Jima, a group of United States Marines and a commonly forgotten U.S. Navy Corpsman, reach the top of Mount Suribachi on the island and are photographed raising the American flag. The photo would later win a Pulitzer Prize and become the model for the national USMC War Memorial.
1980: Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini states that Iran's parliament will decide the fate of the American embassy hostages.

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All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Mar. 3 & 10 • 1 wk.

\$889

*Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$218

MEXICO

Puerto Vallarta/Riviera Nayarit

Meliá Puerto Vallarta • 4 ★
All-Inclusive
Deluxe garden view rm.
Apr. 10, 17 & 24 • 1 wk.

\$1029

*Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$270

Ixtapa/Zihuatanejo

Las Brisas
Resort Ixtapa • 4 ★
All-Inclusive • Deluxe grand rm.
Mar. 13 & 20 • 1 wk.

\$1339

*Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$273

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Punta Cana

Gran Bahia Principe
Punta Cana • 5 ★
All-Inclusive • Junior suite
Mar. 2, 9, 16 & 23 • 1 wk.

\$899

*Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$302

JAMAICA

Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa • 4 ★

All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Mar. 1, 8 & 15 • 1 wk.

\$1099

*Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$270

Gran Bahia Principe Jamaica • 4 1/2 ★

All-Inclusive • Junior suite
Mar. 2, 9, 15 & 23 • 1 wk.

\$1199

*Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$270

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Carnival Victory[®]
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June 6 • 1 wk.

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*Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$281

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\$2319

*Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$281



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